IMT Nuremberg Archives

H – 1004

International Court of Justice

H1004 -0002

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

1 July 1946.

COMMISSIONER:

Captain Joseph Tubridy.

THE S. S.

(THE COMMISSION CONVENED AT 1345 HOURS.)

KARL HANS CHRISTIAN WILHELM JOEHNK, a witness, took the stand and testified as follows:

BY THE COMMISSIONER:

Q Will you raise your right hand and repeat after me:

I swear by God, the Almighty and Omniscient, that I will speak the pure truth and will withhold and add nothing.

(The witness repeated the oath.)

Q Will you please state your full name?

A Karl Hans Christian Wilhelm Joehnk.

THE COMMISSIONER: You may sit down.

DR. PELCKMANN: Witness Joehnk has been selected for the following testimony: What part did the SS play in the shooting of June 30, 1944 and what did the SS known of the events that occured.

DIRECT EXAMINATION.

Q Since when did you belong to the SS and what was the last rank that you held?

H1004-0003

A I have belonged to the SS since May 1, 1932 and to the Waffen SS since March of 1933. The last rank I held was that of a Hauptsturmfuhrer and Battallion Commander.

Q Were you a member of the Leibstandarte?

A Yes.

Q Were you required as an SS man or as a member of the Leibstandarte to give a special oath?

A No. The first time we gave our oath on November 19th, 1933 and in August, 1934 at the time of the death of President Hindenburg and we then gave our oath to the Fuehrer in the Reichs Chancellory.

Q The prosecution claims that the SS men gave an oath in which it swore absolute obedience?

A No, when we were sworn in we gave our oath to be brave, truthful, loyal and to be obedient, but not to be obedient blindly.

Q What do you know of the shooting on June 30, 1934?

A In the matter of June 30th, 1934, the Leibstandarte received an alert order and at the same time the guards that we had - the guards at the Reichs Chancellory were increased. In the late hours of the afternoon of June 29th, the Leibstandarte, together with its vehicles, were assembled in the Anhalter Station in Berlin. During the night of the 29th to the 30th of June, 1934, we drove in the direction of Munich and in the early morning hours of June 30thwe were disembarked at Lechfeld due to the fact that the train with our vehicles did not come immediately. After we arrived we loaded on Reichwehr trucks and drove in a southernly direction. We arrived at Bad Toelz near Munich and there a carrier waited for us and he had a report for

H1004-0004

for the Gruppenfuehrer, who at that time was Dietrich. We then turned around with our vehicles in the direction of Munich. Shortly before arriving at Munich we met another SS formation - it being probably the political preparatory group from Ellwangen. We then drove into Munich through the Priennerstrasse and passed the Braune Haus where we paraded before Hitler. We then continued our ride toward the Dachauerstrasse and there we left our vehicles, handed in our weapons and received food and went to a place to rest.

Q What do you know about the fact that there were executions by the Leibstandarte in Munich?

A Part of the men of the 1st Platoon of the 1st Company had to come out again and receive their weapons, together with Gruppenfuehrer Dietrich and a few other officers of the Leibstandarte. We drove back to the Brown House and we waited before the Brown House when Dietrich went inside. While he was inside, we talked with the other troops of other units that were with us. There we heard for the first time that a "putsch" of several high SA leaders was planned. We also found out that the Leibstandarte was supposed to go to Wiessee and there clean out the conspirators meeting ground. At the same time we also heard that through the influence of the Fuehrer the matter at Wiessee had already been taken care of. They also said that Dietrich now was supposed to receive the death sentences for several SA leaders. After the return of Dietrich we went into the local prison Stadelheim. The platoon stayed on the outside of the court yard or jail while Dietrich and some of the high leaders of the division went inside. Shortly after that we heard several volleys, altogether seven. After the leaders

H1004-0005

returned, we were told that several high SA leaders had been executed, among them Heines, Heidebreck and Schneithuber. We were also told by Dietrich that what we had seen in the Stadelheim prison we were not supposed to reveal to our comrades. We return to our barracks from this Stadelheim prison into Dachauerstrasser.

Q When did you personally return to Berlin and what happened after you returned?

A We were loaded once again the night of June 30th and during the night drove back toward Berlin. We arrive in Berlin on the first of July. After I returned, the men who had remained behind said that a court martial marshall was meetig and some SA leaders were being sentenced to death.

Q And what did you personally do after you returned?

A We, ourselves, found out that in the afternoon during the night and the next morning further shootings were carried out. We were constantly on the alert in a state of alert and the guards remained increased.

Q What do you know concerning this meeting in Berlin?

A We were told by the lower leaders that remained behind in Berlin that a court martial marshall was to meet under the direction of Himmler and also a member of the Reichsfuehrer was to participate in the court martial marshall. I do not know if the member of the Reichsfuehrer was a member of the lower Reichsfuehrer unit or the court.

Q Could the population see the execution?

A Yes, that would be possible that the persons living in the first floor of the Finkensteinallee could have seen the executions and they definitely could have heard the shots.

4

H1004 - 0006

Q How do you know exactly that this court ~~marshall~~ martial did ~~give~~ gave out any sentences?

A The lower leaders that had to carry out these executions told us. Shortly before the actual executions, these sentences were read once again.

Q Were all the SA leaders who were put before this court marshall sentenced to death?

A No. I know of two cases where SA leaders had been before the court marshall and had not been sentenced to death. I personally spoke to the two persons in the Prison Columbiahaus near the Tempelhof field. The first case was Standartenfuehrer Merker and I don't remember the name of the other man.

Q Were these measures solely against members of the SA?

A No, before we took over the guard in the prison were were told that a few SS men had been executed on the order of the Reichsfuehrer SS because they were accused of mistreating some of the SA prisoners that had been in the Columbiahaus.

Q Did you have any after thoughts - any heavy thoughts - concerning these executions?

A No, but we were impressed because in this case they were members of the old fighters and were well known officers of the last war - men that were generally regarded as close friends of the Fuehrer. However, we were soldiers, we had to obey the orders and carry them out. We considered it right that these people be executed since they had acted against the leadership and against the state.

H1004 - 0007

Q Did you have any kind of doubts concerning the lawfulness of this execution against the SA men?

A No, due to the speech of Hitler on July 3rd before the Reichstag, we were convinced that this matter was completely justified and that everything had been according to law.

Q Do you remember anything of that speech that impressed you especially and tended to show you that these persons were actually guilty of the offenses with which they had been charged and that they actually had carried out high treason?

A I remember for instance in the speech of Hitler, he spoke of a Mr. von A who was supposed to have been in charge of the discussion between Schleicher and Roehm on one hand and a foreign power on the other hand, also that of Standartenfuehrer Uhl who was supposed to kill the Fuehrer in Berlin. I also remember at the end of the speech, he stated that any kind of extra measures which had been carried out should be handed to the lawful court for judgment.

Q What do you mean by these measures? Do you mean measures that did not have anything to do with the actual over-throw of the Putsch or later measures which were carried out against people that were not guilty?

A No, we did not think about that at that time. We only thought concerning the fact that these sentences which we had carried out were handed down by special courts and the Fuehrer had given them to the lower courts in order to make them official.

Q No other questions.

H1004 - 0008

CROSS EXAMINATION.

BY MR. ELWYN JONES:

Q How many people did you or your unit shoot in connection with this action of June 30, 1934?

A I, personally, did not shoot anybody in Munich. Seven SA leaders were shot by members of the Leibstandarte. I do not know the number of members of the SA that were shot in Berlin.

Q Do you know how many innocent people were shot in connection with this action of June 30th?

A No.

Q You do know the number of innocent people who were in fact shot on that date?

A I just heard it that year.

Q Did you know of the murder of Schleicher's wife?

A I only know that the wife of Schleicher jumped in between when her husband was arrested and she was shot.

Q Was she shot by an SS man?

A I don't know.

Q Who else was taking part in the action other than SS men?

A I don't know.

Q You were in the Leibstandarte division and that was the terror police of the Nazi party and it was your job to commit murders like this.

A That is not correct.

Q Do you know anything of the murder of Klausen? Who murdered Klausen?

A I don't know. I hear this name for the first time.

H1004 - 0009

Q Are you really saying that, witness?

A Yes.

Q He was the director of the Ministry of Transportation and leader of the Catholic action.

A I don't know of him.

Q He was murdered on the 30th of June.

Q Did you know Gregor Strasser?

A No.

Q You never heard of his name before?

A I did hear of him especially before the rise to power of Hitler. From what I heard, it was rumored that after Hitler took over the reins of the Government, he was in charge of farming and after that he had been made a proffessor. I found out that Strasser was shot afterwards.

Q You did not know about that on June 30th?

A No.

Q Everyone in the foreign countries knew that, it was broadcast widely and published in all the papers and it was widely known. Are you serious in saying as a member of the organization used for these killings that you did not know of the murder of Strasser?

A No, I did not know.

Q When Dietrich told you outside the Stadelheim prison that you were not supposed to reveal to your comrades what you had seen and heard, it must have been very clear to you that you were engaged in some peculiar business?

A I don't think that was an indication it was unlawful, as we were

H1004-0010

told nothing whatever of the actual happenings of June 30th until we were before the Braune Haus.

Q Did you think that when Dietrich and whoever was with him were murdering these men in the Stadelheim prison that they were justified in doing that?

A Yes, we believed that this execution was lawful especially due to the fact that we were told by our convoy troops that Dietrich went into theBraune Haus to get theexecution orders.

Q You would have shot anyone that Himmler told you to shoot, whether you thought he was guilty or innocent, would you not?

A No.

Q You know that Himmler's orders resulted in the murder of millions of people? You know that now, don't you?

A I heard of that here.

Q These murders were carried out by people like yourself who were willing to obey Himmler's orders implicitly.

A We did not know that. We did not murder anyone and if the decision had come before us and I would have thought that the person was not guilty, I don't think I would have carried out the orders. That is if I had considered that something unlawful had been requested of me as then I would not have carried it out.

Q These June 30th incidents were described by Frick, Reichsminister of the Interior as the first illegal actions of the party since its rise to power. Do you agree with that? Frick further stated that the SS was used by Himmler for this illegal action. Do you agree with Frick about

H1004-0011

this?

A I cannot give you an answer here. We were told it was a completely lawful measure.

Q The prosecution case against the SS men states you went from murdering your fellow Germans to murdering millions of peoples in countries which you conquered between 1939 and 1945. What do you say about that?

A I want to say that I heard of these alleged murders only now and in the four and one half years I spent on the front, I never heard of these murders.

Q No more questions.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION.

BY DR. PELCKMANN:

Q Witness, do you remember from the speach of Hitler, which you described, or from later press dispatches, anything regarding the murder or killing of Mrs. Schleicher and how it was explained.

A No.

MR. ELWYN JONES: I suggest that if the defense counsel desires to bring up the speech of Hitler and his explanation, rather than rely on memory as the defense has access to Hitler's speech, I suggest that he put on the record Hitler's speech. I merely make this as a suggestion, rather than as an objection to the defense counsel's questioning.

DR. PELCKMANN: I don't think the prosecutor recognized my reason for asking this question.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: The prosecutor has indicated that he is not going to press his reasons and the question may stand. Can we go on?

H1004-0012

DR. PELCKMANN: I don't want to prove that Hitler said something. I want to find out what the witness knows.

MR. ELWYN JONES: I do submit that Hitler's speech thirteen days after these killings occured is not very helpful, but I don't take to take up any more time.

BY DR. PELCKMANN:

Q Witness, you have heard my question, will you answer it.

A I only can remember that Mrs. Schleicher jumped in between when her husband attempted to prevent his arrest and she was shot in that way.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Does the witness know this from his own knowledge or did someone tell him this?

THE WITNESS: If I remember correctly, this is either from the speech or from press dispatches.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: He does not know of his own knowledge?

DR. PELCKMANN: Yes it is important that the witness did not know things in which he did not participate in himself.

BY DR. PELCKMANN:

Q The reasons for these executions were published within a short time soon after the affair and even the next day after the executions had taken place in the press? Is that correct?

A I cannot remember that exactly. We remained in our barracks until the speech of Hitler and we were on the alert all of the time, leaving the

H1004-0013

barracks only to go on guard.

DR. PELCKMANN: No more questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: The witness can be excused.

(TIME - 1445 HOURS.)

****

The foregoing is a true and cocrect transcript of the testimony of KARL HANS CHRISTIAN WILHELM JOEHNK taken on 1 July, 1946.

Reporter (Pg. 1-12)

CERTIFIED TO: Joseph F. Tubridy

Commissioner.

H1004 - 0014

File

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

1 July 1946.

COMMISSIONER:

Captain Joseph Tubridy.

THE SS

(The Commission Convened at 1345 hours)

KARL HANS CHRISTIAN WILHELM JOEHNKE, a witness, to the stand and testified as follows:

BY THE COMMISSIONER:

Q. Will you raise your right hand and repeat after me:

I swear by God, the Almighty and Omniscient, that I will speak the pure truth and will withhold and add nothing.

(The witness repeated the oath).

Q. Will you please state your full name?

A. Karl Hans Christian Wilhelm Joehnke.

THE COMMISSIONER: You may sit down.

DR. PELCKMANN: Witness Joehnke, has been selected for the following testimony: What part did the SS play in the shooting of June 30, 1934, and what did the SS know of the events that occured.

DIRECT EXAMINATION

Q. Since when did you belong to the SS, and what was the last rank that you hold?

A. I have belonged to the SS since May 1 1932 and to the Waffen SS since March of 1933. The last rank I hold was that of a Hauptsturmfuhrer and Battalion Commander.

Q. Were you a member of the Leibstandarte?

A. Yes.

H1004 – 0015

Q. Were you required as an SS man, or as a member of the Leibstandarte to give a special oath?

A. No. The first time we gave our oath on November 19th, 1933, and in August 1934, at the time of the death of President Hindenburg, and we then gave our oath to the Fuhrer in the Reichs Chancellory.

Q. The prosecution claims that the SS men gave an oath in which it swore absolute obedience?

A. No, when we were sworn in we gave our oath to be brave, truthful, loyal and to be obedient, but not to be obedient blindly.

Q. What do you know of the shooting on June 30, 1934?

A. In the matter of June 30 1934, the Leibstandarte received an alert order and at the same time the guards we had - the guards at the Reichs Chancellory - were increased. In the late hours of the afternoon of June 29th the Leibstandarte, together with its vehicles, were assembled in the Inhalter Station in Berlin. During the night of the 29th to the 30th of June 1934, we drove in the direction of Munich and in the early morning hours of June 30 we were disembarked at Lechfeld, due to the fact that the train with our vehicles did not come immediately. After we arrived, w e loaded on Reichwehr trucks and drove in a southerly direction. We arrived at Bad-Tolz near Munich and there a carrier waited for us and he had a report for the Gruppenfuhrer, who at that time was Dietrich. We then turned around with our vehicles in the direction of Munich. Shortly before arriving at Munich we met another SS formation - it being probably the political preparatory group from Ellwangen. We then drove into Munich through the Orionnerstrasse and passed the Braune Haus where we paraded before Hitler. We then continued our ride toward the Dachauerstrasse and there we left our vehicles, handed in our weapons and received food and went to a place to rest.

H1004 -0016

1 July-3-IOW-Meehan.

Q. What do you know about the fact that there were executions by the Leibstandarte in Munich?

A. Part of the men of the 1st Platoon of the 1st Company had to come out again and received their weapons, together with Gruppenfuehrer Dietrich and a few other officers of the Leibstandarte. We drove back to the Brown House and we waited before the Brown House when Dietrich went inside. While he was inside, we talked with the other troops of other units that were with us. There we heard for the first time that a "putsch" of several high SA leaders was planned. We also found out that the Leibstandarte was supposed to go to Wiessee, and there clean out the conspirators meeting ground. At the same time we also heard that through the influence of the Fuehrer, the matter at Wiessee had already been taken care of. They also said that Dietrich now was supposed to receive the death sentences for several SA leaders. After the return of Dietrich, we went into the local prison Stadelheim. The platoon stayed on the outside of the court yard or jail, while Dietrich and some of the high leaders of the division went inside. Shortly after that we heard several volleys, altogether seven. After the leaders returned, we were told that several high SA leaders had been executed, among them Heines, Heidebreck and Schneithuber. We were also told by Dietrich that what we had seen in the Stadelheim prison we were not supposed to reveal to our comrades. We returned to out barracks from the Stadelheim prisone into Dachauerstrasse.

Q. When did you personally return to Berlin, and what happened after you returned?

A. We were loaded once again the night of June 30th and during the night drove back toward Berlin. We arrived in Berlin on the 1st of July. After I returned, the men who had remained behind said that a court-martial was meeting and some SA leaders were being sentenced to death.

H1004 - 0017

Q. And what did you personally do after you returned?

A. We, ourselves, found out that in the afternoon, during the night and the next morning, further shootings were carried out. We were constantly on the alert, in a state of alert, and the guards remained increased.

Q. What do you know concerning this meeting in Berlin?

A. We were told by the lower leaders that remained behind in Berlin, that a court-martial was to meet under the direction of Himmler and also a member of the Reichsfuehrer was to participate in the court-martial. I do not know if the member of the Reichsfuhrer was a member of the lower Reichsfuhrer unit or the court.

Q. Could the population see the execution?

A. Yes, that would be possible that the persons living in the first floor of the Finkensteinallee could have seen the execution, and they definitely could have heard the shots.

Q. How di you know exactly that this court-martial gave out any sentences?

A. The lower leaders that had to carry out these executions told us. Shortly before the actual executions, these sentences were read once again.

Q. Were all the SA leaders who were put before this court-martial sentenced to death?

A. No. I know of two cases where SA leaders had been before the court-martial, and had not been sentenced to death. I personally spoke to the two persons in the Prison Columbiahaus near the Tempelhof field. The first case was Standartenfuhrer Herker, and I don't remember the name of the other man.

Q. Were these measures solely against members of the SA?

A. No, before we took over the guard in the prison, we were told that a few SS men had been executed on the order of the Reichsfuhrer SS, because they were accused of mistreating some of the SA prisoners that had been in the Columbiahaus.

Q. Did youhave any after thoughts - any heavy thoughts - concerning these executions?

A. No, but we were impressed because in this case they were members of the fighters, and were well known officers of the last war - men that were generally regarded as close friends of the Fuehrer. However, we were soldiers, we had to obey the orders and carry them out. We considered it right that these people be executed, since they had acted against the leadership and against the state.

Q. Did you have any kinds of doubts concerning the lawfulness of this execution against the SA-men?

A. No, due to the speech of Hitler on July 3rd before the Reichstag, we were convinced that this matter was completely justified and that everything had been according to the law.

Q. Do you remember anything of that speech that impressed you especially and tended to show you that these persons were actually guilty of the offenses with which they had been charged, and that they actually had carried out high treason?

A. I remember, for instnace, in the speech of Hitler, he spoke of a Mr. von A, who was supposed to have been in charge of the discussion between Schleicher and Roehm on one hand, and a foreign power on the other hand, also that of Standartenfuhrer Uhl, who was supposed to kill the Fuhrer in Berlin. I also remember at the end of the speech, he stated that any kind of extra measures which had been carried out should be handed to the lawful court for judgement.

Q. What do you mean by these measures? Do you mean measures that did not have anything to do with the actual over-throw of the Putsch or later measures which were carried out against people who were not guilty?

A. No, we did not think about that at that time. We only thought concerning the fact that these sentences which we had carried out were handed down by special courts and the Fuhrer had given them to the lower courts in order to make them official.

Q. No further questions.

H1004-0018

H1004-0019

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. ELWYN JONES:

Q. How many people did you or your unit shoot in connection with this actio of June 30, 1934 ?

A. I personally, did not shoot anybody in Munich. Seven SA leaders were shot by members of the Leibstandarte. I do not know the number of members of the SA that were shot in Berlin.

Q. Do you know how many innocent people were shot in connection with this action of June 30th ?

A. No.

Q. You do know the number of innocent people who were in fact shot on that date ?

A. I just heard it that year.

Q. Did you know of the murder of Schleicher 's wife ?

A. I only know that the wife of Schleicher jumped in between when her husband was arrested and she was shot.

Q. Was she shot by an SS man ?

A. I don't know.

Q. Who else was taking part in the action other than SS men ?

A. I don't know.

Q. You were in the Leibstandarte division and that was the terror police of the Nazi party and it was your job to commit murders like this ?

A. This is not correct.

Q. Do you know anything of the murder of Klausen ? Who murdered Klausen ?

A. I don't know. I hear this name for the first time.

Q. Are you really saying that, witness ?

A. Yes.

Q. He was the director of the Ministry of Transportation and leader of the Catholic action.

A. I don't know of him.

Q. He was murdered on the 30th of June.

Q. Did you know Gregor Strasser ?

A. No.

H1004-0020

Q. You never heard of his name before ?

A. I did hear of him especially before the rise to power of Hitler. From what I heard, it was rumored that after Hitler took pver the reins of the Government, he was in charge of farming and after that he had been made a professor. I found out that Strasser was shot afterwards.

Q. You did not know about that on June 30th ?

A. No.

Q. Everyone in the foreign countries knew that, it was broadcast widely and published in all the papers and it was widely known. Are you serious in saying as a member of the organization used for these killings that you did not know of the murder of Strasser ?

A. No, I did not know.

Q. When Dietrich told you outside the Stadelheim prison that you were not supposed to reveal to your comrades what you had seen and heard, it must have been very clear to you that you were engaged in some peculiar business ?

A. I don't think that was an indication it was unlawful, as we were told nothing whatever of the actual happenings of June 30th until we were before the Braune Haus.

Q. Did you think that when Dietrich and whoever was with him were murdering those men in the Stadelheim prison that they were justified in doing that ?

A. Yes, we believed that this execution was lawful especially due to the fact that we were told by our convoy troops that Dietrich went into the Braune Haus to get the execution orders.

Q. You would have shot anyone that Himmler told you to shoot, whether you thought he was guilty or innocent, would you not ?

A. No.

Q. You know that Himmler's orders resulted in the murder of millions of people ? You know that now don't you ?

A. I heard of that here.

Q. Those murders were carried out by people like yourself who were willing to obey Himmler's orders implicitely.

A. We did not know that. We did not murder anyone and if the decision had come before us and I would have thought that the person was not guilty, I don't think I would have carried out the orders. That is if I had considered that

something unlawful had been requested of me as then I would not have carried it out.

Q. These June 30th incidents were described by Frick, Reichsminister of the Interior as the first illegal actions of the party since its rise to power. Do you agree with that ? Frick further stated that the SS was used by Himmler for this illegal action. Do you agree with Frick's statement ?

A. I cannot give you an answer here. We weretold it was a completely lawful measure.

Q. The Prosecution case against the SS men states you went from murdering your fellow Germans to murdering millions of peoples in countries which you conquered between 1939 and 1945. What do you say about that ?

A. I want to say that I heard of these alleged murders only now and in the four and one half years I spent on the front, I never heard of these murders.

Q. No more questions.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY DR. PELCKMANN:

Q. Witness, do you remember from the speach of Hitler, which you described or from later pressdispatches, anything regarding the murder or killing of Mrs. Schleicher and how it was explained.

A. No.

MR. ELWYN JONES: I suggest that if the defense counsel desires to bring up the speech of Hitler and his explanation, rather than rely on memory as the defense has access to Hitler's speech, I suggest that he put on the record Hitler's speech. I merely make this as a suggestion, rather than as an objection to the defense counsel's questioning.

DR. PELCKMANN: I don't think the prosecutor recognized my reason for asking this question.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: The prosecutor has indicated that he is not going to press his reasons and the question may stand. Can we go on ?

DR. PELCKMANN: I don't want to prove that Hitler said something. I want to find out what the witness knows.

H1004 - 0021

H1004-0022

MR. ELWYN JONES: I do submit that Hitler's speech thirteen days after these killings occured is not very helpful, but I don't want to take up any more time.

BY DR. PELCKMANN:

Q. Witness you have heard my question, will you answer it.

A. I only can remember that Mrs. Schleicher jumped in between when her husband attempted to prevent his arrest and she was shot in that way

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Does the witness know this from his own knowledge from observation or did someone tell him this ?

WITNESS: If I remember correctly, this is either from the speech or from press dispatches.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: He does not know of this own knowledge ?

DR. PELCKMANN: Yes it is important that the witness did not know things in which he did not participate in himself.

BY DR. PELCKMANN

Q. The reasons for these executions were published within a short time soon after the affair and even the next day after the executions had taken place in the press ? Is that correct ?

A. I cannot remember that exactly. We remained in our barracks until the speech of Hitler and we were on the alert all of the time, leaving the barracks only to go on guard.

DR. PELCKMANN: No more questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: The witness can be excused.

(TIME: 1445 hours)

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony of KARL HANS CHRISTIAN WILHELM JOEHNK taken on 1 July, 1946.

A. J. Meehan
reporter

CERTIFIED TO:

Joseph F. Tubridy
commissioner